

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-01 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02

TRSE-00 RSC-01 /053 W

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R 221129Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 121

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0089

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : ENRG QA

SUBJECT : QATARI ATTITUDES TOWARD OIL PRICE INCREASES TO
COMPENSATE FOR REDUCED US IMPORTS

1. DURING JAN 12 CONVERSATIONS WITH SENIOR GOQ OFFICIALS INCLUDING OIL MINISTER SHAYKH ABDUL AZIZ AND AMIR'S POLITICAL/ DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR, DR. HASSAN KAMEL, SENATOR PERCY ASKED FOR PLEDGE THAT GOQ WOULD NOT RPT NOT RAISE OIL PRICES TO MAINTAIN ITS REVENUES IF US CONSERVATION MEASURES REDUCED US OIL IMPORTS.

2. KAMEL RESPONDED CATEGORICALLY THAT HE WAS SURE AMIR WOULD CONFIRM HIS VIEW THAT GOQ WOULD NOT RPT NOT RAISE PRICES IN RESPONSE TO US CONSERVATION MEASURES SINCE SUCH CONSERVATION STRONGLY ADVOCATED BY QATAR AND OTHER OIL PRODUCERS WHICH REGARDED PETROLEUM AS THEIR LIMITED AND, IN SOME CASES, ONLY RESOURCE.

3. KAMEL WAS CAREFUL TO SPECIFY, HOWEVER, THAT THIS ASSURANCE GIVEN STRICTLY WITHIN CONTEXT OF SENATOR'S PROPOSAL, I.E. REDUCED IMPORTS MADE POSSIBLE BY EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION MEASURES IN US. KAMEL SAID OF COURSE HE WOULD HAVE TO CONFIRM THIS ASSURANCE WITH
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THE AMIR, BUT HE WAS CERTAIN THAT HIS OWN RESPONSE ACCURATELY

REFLECTED AMIR'S THINKING ON SUBJECT. KAMEL ADDED THAT THERE WERE OF COURSE OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES THAT COULD CAUSE OIL PRICE INCREASES, PRINCIPALLY INFLATION OF COSTS OF WHAT QATAR AND OTHER OIL PRODUCERS PURCHASED.

4. DURING JAN 22 CONVERSATION WITH KAMEL, WE ASKED WHETHER HE HAD CHECKED OUT SENATOR PERCY'S QUERY WITH THE AMIR. HE REPLIED THAT HE HAD AND, AS HE HAD EXPECTED, THE AMIR HAD CONFIRMED HIS ASSURANCE TO SENATOR PERCY.

PAGANELLI

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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